

TreeLink News Bulletin

In the works



London Plane Tree
Platanus x acerifolia

Sometimes referred to as *Platanus x hispanica*, this species is a likely cross between the American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) and the oriental plane tree (*Platanus orientalis*). The leaves are palmately lobed, up to 8 inches (20 cm) long and 10 inches (25 cm) wide. The flaky bark is brown, gray, and cream in color. The fruit is a rounded, dense, spiky cluster about 1 inch (2.5 cm) across, and hangs in chains from two to four clusters long. It is easily distinguishable from its cousin, the American sycamore, whose fruit hangs singly, in most cases.

-courtesy Allen J. Coombes



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources
Jennifer M. Belcher - Commissioner of Public Lands

Summer has finally arrived here in the Pacific Northwest, and not a moment too soon. Things have been as hectic as ever around the Washington State Department of Natural Resource's Urban Forestry Program. Our 1998 grantees have been sending in their final reports for reimbursement, and the 1999 grantees have received the "go ahead" to begin their projects. Communities all over the state have been inquiring about the requirements for becoming a Tree City USA. The Washington Community Forestry Council met in Ferndale for a meeting to discuss program direction for the next millenium. Yours truly even found time last month to take a couple of weeks off to go to Montana and get married. Now that summer is in full swing, it is more important than ever to remember to keep watering all of those trees you have planted in the past three years. -K.L.

Think Trees This Summer in Seattle

by Michael Benson

October is an ideal time to plant trees ... which means that now is a perfect time to begin talking with your neighbors to plan your residential street or park planting project. In support of the Mayor's millennium goal of planting 20,000 trees, the City will provide 10 to 40 free trees to your neighborhood group in exchange for your sweat equity to plant and maintain the trees. Tree Fund applications are due by August 6 ... but start planning now. For more information about the Tree Fund (a matching fund) or to request an application, call the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods: Michael Benson at (206) 684-0215 or Laurie Ames at (206) 684-0320.

Wood Waste Utilization Call For Presentations

The National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) has announced its intention to hold the Second Annual Wood Waste Utilization National Conference May 4-5, 2000. NADF welcomes presenters and topics from diverse professions involved in the rescue and beneficial use of wood residues. They are especially interested in sessions that include audiovisual elements, audience participation, demonstrations, and other unique approaches. They have a variety of formats available from 20 to 60 minutes in length. Conference presenters will receive a complimentary conference registration.

The conference is designed to encourage the sharing of information among the many individuals, communities, organizations, and professions concerned about and involved in the wise use of wood residues. It will examine trends and future implications as well as current issues, approaches, and techniques. Proposal for case study presentations of projects representing a variety of situations and solutions are especially invited.

Deadline for proposals is September 23, 1999. For more information, contact June Parsons at (402) 474-5655 or e-mail jparsons@arborday.org.

CUH Offerings for Home Gardeners

IPM Strategies for the Home Gardener

On Tuesday, July 13, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm, Ciscoe Morris, Grounds Supervisor at Seattle University, will lead this tour of the Seattle University grounds while lecturing on a variety of Integrated Pest Management strategies you can use at home. Learn about pest diagnosis, cultural and biological controls for common pests, and other least toxic management techniques. Pre-registration and \$18 fee is required.

Broadleafed Evergreen Trees & Shrubs for the Home Garden

This two-part course taught by Scott Conner, Horticultural Consultant, will cover the ornamental and landscape value of over 30 recommended broadleafed evergreens. This introductory level lecture and field study program will emphasize identification, selection, placement and function within the urban landscape. The course will take place August 4 from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm and August 7 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Pre-registration and a course registration fee are required.

For more information about the Center for Urban Horticulture's gardening and horticulture programs, visit their website at <http://weber.u.washington.edu/~urbhort/> or call (206) 685-8033. If you have children, between second and fifth grade, be sure to ask about their "Arboretum Nature Day Camps."

In the works (continued)

Trees must be touched to be understood.

- Alex L. Shigo

TRIVIA: Based on a survey by Georgia-Pacific Corp. from Little Rock, Arkansas; what is the number one killer of trees in urban environments?

(answer is upside down below)

Picks and Shovels

On the Horizon

The Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program is made possible with assistance from the USDA Forest Service. The program's purpose is to assist communities and nonprofit groups in building self-sustaining urban forestry and tree care programs with strong local support.

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(Construction Damage)

Coming to the 9th National Urban Forest Conference?

by Liz Ellis

The Seattle Tree Stewards will be hosting an evening "picnic" gathering from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm at the Dome Room on September 1 for conference attendees and local folks who are either involved in or interested in volunteer urban forestry activities. RSVP to Liz ASAP or by August 15. The City of Seattle's Arctic Building Dome Room is an elegant meeting hall and an easy walk or bus ride from the Westin Hotel. Originally, the Dome Room was the dining room of the Arctic Club, an association of men who had made their fortunes in the Alaska gold rush of the late 1800's. Since 1916 it has been a gathering place for all manner of public and private events.

The City of Seattle Tree Steward Program has been training and assisting urban forestry volunteers since 1994. The program was modeled after similar programs, such as "Master Gardeners" and Chicago Openland's "Tree Keeper." It is one of many volunteer programs coordinated by the City. Others include the Adopt-A-Park Program and the P-Patch Program. There are many resources for Seattle volunteers. They include City grants for neighborhood groups and tree planting programs, as well as not-for-profit organizations that are involved with urban forestry. The Seattle Tree Steward motto is: "Once a Tree Steward, Always a Tree Steward!" There are just over 300 Seattle Tree Stewards. We would like to have at least one on every block! This conference gathering could be the beginning of a National/International Tree Steward network. Just imagine the possibilities!

Wherever you're from, bring photos, publications, success stories and heartaches and plan to be a part of this first ever national and international gathering of Tree Stewards!

To find out more about Seattle's urban forestry programs, check out our website at: <http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/oem/trees.htm> To link your programs web page with the Seattle Tree Steward site, send an e-mail to liz.ellis@ci.seattle.wa.us. See you in Seattle!

For conference information go to: <http://www.americanforests.org>

A City Among the Trees is a 200-page workbook which integrates elements of urban forestry, comprehensive planning, and sustainability. It will prove to be a valuable resource for citizens planning for trees and green spaces and will foster awareness and political support for future urban forestry management. This book is a must have for anyone interested in the wonderful world of urban and community forestry. Between its covers, you will find information on topics like: urban tree benefits, planning, tree selection, planting, tree care, street and park trees, natural areas, tree preservation, and a phenomenal resource guide. Copies can be purchased from Seattle Transportation for the bargain price of \$10. Order one now. For more information, contact Liz Ellis at liz.ellis@ci.seattle.wa.us or (206) 684-5008.

July

- 15 Deadline for early registration for the 9th National Urban Forest Conference. Register on-line at <http://www.amfor.org/frames.shtml?ufc/conf/> or call (202) 955-4500.
- 17 ArborMasters One-Day Seminar. Ken Palmer and Rip Tompkins demonstrate why they are two of America's best tree climbers. Spokane, WA. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Cost for ISA members is \$68 and \$85 for non-members. For more information, contact PNW-ISA at (503) 585-4285.
- 24 Section B, Arboretum Plant Study Program. Graham Visitors Center, Washington Park Arboretum. For more information, call the Center for Urban Horticulture at (206) 685-8033.

August

- 1-4 ISA Annual Conference and Trade Show. Stamford Westin Hotel, Stamford, CT. For registration information, call the International Society of Arboriculture at (217) 355-9411.
- 27-29 Farwest Show. Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR. For complete exhibitor list, or to register on-line, log on to <http://www.nurseryguide.com/farwest/index.html> or call 1-800-342-6401.
- 31-3 *Building Cities of Green* 9th National Urban Forest Conference. Westin Hotel, Seattle, WA.